

WELCOME

TO

KIMBERLEY SWIMMING CLUB

**2025**

**EAST MIDLANDS**

**SWIMMING CLUB OF THE YEAR 2024**

**AND NATIONAL FINALIST**

[**www.kimberleyswimmingclub.co.uk**](http://www.kimberleyswimmingclub.co.uk)

**e-mail:** [**kimberleyswimmingclub@gmail.com**](mailto:kimberleyswimmingclub@gmail.com)

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**[follow us on Facebook]**

**KIMBERLEY** is a development swimming club with a competitive squad and our aim is to produce swimmers who represent KIMBERLEY at inter-club galas, in the Nottinghamshire leagues, County Galas and hopefully in the Midland District Competitions.

We are also keen to provide a healthy social side to the club and arrange a number of events during the year. This introductory booklet hopes to explain the way the club operates and some of the activities which take place. Any member of the committee or the coaching staff will always be prepared to answer any further questions which you may have.

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our main aim is to provide the swimmers of Kimberley Swimming Club with a safe, friendly, enjoyable but competitive environment in which to train and swim, whilst encouraging non-swimmers to help and support the club in achieving this aim.

The Club is committed to treating everyone equally regardless of their age, level of ability or disability, gender (including gender reassignment), marital and civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or any other relevant characteristic.

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# **TRAINING TIMES**

[From March 2024 until further notice]

After swimming at Kimberley Leisure Centre since 1977 we are now swimming Saturday morning, Sunday afternoon, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Evenings at different pools.

Your child is welcome to attend on any of these days dependent upon whether they are in Development or Squad.

**Our sessions are based on the Swim England National Plan for Teaching Swimming.**

**COMBINED DEVELOPMENT / SQUAD SESSIONS**

START FINISH

Saturday 7.30 am 8.30 am @ Heanor

Sunday 4.00 pm 4.45 pm @ Heanor

Sunday 4.45 pm 5.30 pm @ Heanor

Friday 7.45 pm 8.30 pm @ Ilkeston

Friday 8.30 pm 9.15 pm @ Ilkeston

**SQUAD ONLY SESSIONS**

START FINISH

Monday 8.30 pm 9.30 pm @ Ken Martin

Wednesday 8.00 pm 9.00 pm @ Heanor

Thursday 8.30 pm 9.30 pm @ Harvey Hadden

[see separate sheet for full details]

We swim throughout the year EXCEPT when the Leisure Centres are closed themselves.

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#### TRIALS

**Anyone wishing to join KIMBERLEY SWIMMING CLUB should first attend a trial session.**

**These are held at Ilkeston on Friday evening @ 7.45 pm or at Heanor on Saturday morning @ 7.30 am. If neither of these is possible please let us know**

## MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

All Kimberley members are required to train with the club twice a month as a minimum. However this level of commitment is unlikely to produce swimmers able to compete at even the most junior level. Twice weekly attendance would be expected at the younger age increasing as the swimmer progresses with the club. If the minimum requirement is not achieved, membership will cease, unless there are exceptional circumstances e.g. temporary illness or serious injury. Anyone who is not able to comply with these criteria should advise a committee member as to their reasons so that their membership can be maintained.

Membership runs from January to December and is renewable every year. Any membership not renewed by the end of January shall be deemed to have lapsed. **Newcomers are allowed THREE PAID SWIMS before becoming members**. Currently the cost per night to swim is £3.50 for a single session, for all swimmers.

Fees are subject to change as follows:

1. Membership fees can only be changed at the A.G.M
2. Session fees may be changed as considered necessary if the pool operator imposes an increase in pool hire.

Any monies for membership, session fees (in multiples of £3.50) plus Novice, Club Champs and Open Meet entries can be made by Bank Transfer – please ask for details.

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## RESIGNATIONS

Should the time come when you decide not to come to the Club anymore, please submit your resignation in writing. If joining another club an official Swim England resignation form is available from the secretary of the new club.

**UNDER SWIM ENGLAND RULES ONCE A MEMBER, YOU REMAIN SO UNTIL A WRITTEN**

**RESIGNATION IS RECEIVED.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The chairman and committee members are elected from the membership at the AGM in December each year and details of the current structure can be seen on the website.

# **SWIM ENGLAND INSURANCE**

All members of KIMBERLEY are insured through Swim England for accidents during training or whilst representing the club at galas. If, however, you wish to take part in Open Meets, County Championships or Midland District (where you are not directly representing the club) you will need to be registered with Swim England as an individual swimmer (Club Compete).

For more information regarding cover and fees please see the Membership Secretary.

**CLUB POLICIES AND RULES**

These can be viewed via the club website

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**TRAINING SESSIONS**

Since we had to change the pools we use, our development swimmers swim at the same time as our squad swimmers. Most of our sessions last for 1hr except for Ilkeston (Friday night) and Heanor (Sunday afternoon) and members can swim for 1.5hrs (though not advisable for our younger swimmers).

The swimmers can attend as many sessions as they wish each week (minimum requirement is twice a month).

Swimmers are regularly monitored on their progression and are moved up a lane when the coaches/teachers deem that they are capable of swimming the extra lengths in a higher lane. Please note, however, that not all swimmers will progress to competitive swimming.

**A reminder – No mobile phones in the changing areas or on poolside – leave them with parents or in a locker**

## NOVICE GALA

Every year in **APRIL** we hold a Novice Gala, which is open to ALL members - the only criteria being that the swimmer can swim 25 metres. The Novice Gala is a great introduction to competitive swimming for our younger swimmers. Medals are awarded to all swimmers on the day. It is important to try and enter this gala as it is an excellent introduction to competitive swimming in a safe and supportive structure.

**CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Our club championships are held in **OCTOBER** every year and all members are entitled to and encouraged to enter. There is no age restriction as long as they can comfortably swim 25 metres. Trophies are awarded to the winners of each age group (boy and girl) for the first six places. All awards are presented at a presentation evening a few weeks after the event – this is the BIG social event of the year. It is important to try and enter this gala as it is an excellent introduction to competitive swimming in a safe and supportive structure.

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**AWARDS [SWIM ENGLAND]**

Awards of all kinds for all abilities are regularly practised and tested. However you must ask if there is a particular award you would like to take due to demand, space and teaching staff.

**AWARDS [NOVICE AND CLUB CHAMPS]**

The Novice Gala and the Club Championships results are worked out and trophies are awarded to the fastest 6 swimmers in each age group and the swimmers with the best totals wins an age group award (based on 6 points for first place etc.)

There are also annual Special awards voted on by the committee and presented at our Presentation/Party Night along with the Club Champs and Novice winners.

These are:

The President’s Cup [dedication]

Chris Jackson Trophy [achievement]

J R Crampton Cup [endeavour]

Jane Hamilton Cup [competition endeavour]

Pat Staples Shield [hard working member]

Competition Shield [competitor, not always the winner]

Most Improved Junior Member(s) [improvement]

Jennifer Holden Shield [late starter]

The Kimberley Challenge Cup [biggest percentage time off a club record]

Kieran Thomas Beecham Memorial Shield [commitment]

Anthony Shelton Memorial Shield [young volunteer(s)]

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# **GALA’S – A BEGINNERS GUIDE**

**Age Groups-** Many galas are now ‘age as at date of swim’ or ‘age at the end of a series of league galas’. Confused? Ask a coach to explain!

**Internal Galas / Time Trials** - All swimmers who can swim 25 metres are entitled to swim these galas. These are to help swimmers gain experience of a gala situation and to help the coaches keep up to date swimming time records.

**Inter Club Galas – Leagues General.**

Eight and Nine year olds can swim in inter club galas but will usually only swim in relays. Ten/Eleven year olds normally swim in 50 metre individual races and relays, Twelve and above usually swim in 100 metre individual races and relays.

We are affiliated to Swim England (National), Midlands and to Notts. All competitions are overseen by them.

**Notts ASA League galas:** Currently we enter 3 Notts ASA Swimming Competitions. A team of swimmers will be chosen for each gala and will be given a ‘pink slip’ or be invited electronically. There is no charge for these events except an entry fee and probably a raffle.

**Stage O**ne: Three trophy galas, one in February, one in July and one in December for 8- 11yrs old swimmers. [25 and 50m events]

**Stage Two:** Two trophy galas, one in June and the other in October for 10 yrs and under to Open swimmers [50m events]

**Stage Three:** Two trophy galas, one in February and the other in September for ages 12yrs and under to Open swimmers [100m individual events].

**Sports Centre League – Spring/Autumn**

Six galas – 3 in the Spring, 3 in the Autumn, for ages 8yrs to Open Age Group. Run as a league with relegation/promotion. We are currently in Division 2.

**J.C. Dobb Competition**

As above, six galas - local competition between six clubs, Kimberley S.C, Sutton S.C, Bramcote S.C, Radford S.C, Hucknall S.C and Portland S.C. for ages 8yrs to Open Age Group.

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**Notts County & Midland District**

Annual championships are held at both County and District levels, these galas are subject to achieving qualifying times. The Coaches will advise you if we think you are eligible to compete

To compete at this level swimmers must be registered individually (known as Cat 2, Club Compete) membership with Swim England (see membership secretary for full details)

**OPEN MEETS**

Open Meets are swimming galas organised by Clubs throughout the country which are ‘open’ to entries from other clubs.

To compete at Opens swimmers must be registered individually (known as Cat 2 Club Compete membership) with Swim England (see membership secretary for full details)

Open Meets are split into four categories:

Level 1 – these are Long Course (L/C) which means they are swum in a 50m pool. They have qualifying times to enter and can be used to qualify for Regional and National Championships.

Level 2 – these are Short Course (S/C) which means they are swum in a 25m pool. They also have qualifying times to enter and are generally County Championships and other Open Meets. Times can be used for entry into National and Regional Champs.

Level 3 – these can be either Long or Short Course and use either qualifying times or upper limit times (not faster than). This is to ensure that the meet stays as a development meet for up-and-coming and younger swimmers.

Level 4 – these are defined as for one-club entry i.e. Club Champs. This is to allow swimmers to achieve ‘official’ times for the other level galas listed above.

**Open meets command various entry fees depending on the organisers and venues.**

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**Ranking System**

All times swum at galas are entered into a computer database to create ranking lists for all Swim England recognised events. These ranking lists are used by the Coaches to form the basis for team selection using the criteria outlined above. If you wish a time achieved at a non-Kimberley gala to be recorded, then proof of the time achieved should be given to the coaches.

**Gala Swimming**

Swimmers representing the club at League galas are expected to wear the club swimming hats and T-shirts (available from our swim shop).

**A reminder – No mobile phones in the changing areas or on poolside – leave them with parents or in a locker**

**SWIM SHOP**

Various items are available – **cash only please.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Stock items**  **\* can be personalised** | **Items to order**  **\* can be personalised** |
| Club Yellow polo shirts \* | Hoodies\* |
| Club ‘teabag’ poolside shirts \* | Onesies\* |
| Backpacks \* | Towels\* |
| Water bottles \* | Named hats\* [silver only] |
| Hats [choice of blue or silver] |  |
| Small selection of goggles |  |
| Small selection of swimsuits and jammers/trunks | [samples are available to view by request] |

Order forms on the website

We are pleased to let you know that KSC members can get a 10% discount on purchases online and in store (but not at Open Meets) from Sporty Swim, the local swimming store in Bulwell. Details of this offer can be obtained by finding a link to their website and our discount code on the **members section** of the club website so log on to get started.

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**SWIMMING COACHES**

Most of our coaches are parents or ex swimmers, and most possess a level of professional swimming and/or lifesaving qualification.

**All of our staff are unpaid volunteers**. It is important that the time they spend for the benefit of the Club is not wasted and every co-operation during the teaching/coaching sessions is appreciated. We know it is nice to see how your child is getting on but please don’t be a distraction whilst their lesson is in progress. We need the swimmers to pay attention to the Coaches so please don’t “coach” from the sidelines – we would love to see you on poolside and would even support you through a teaching development programme!

If you want to know anything please don’t be afraid to ask or speak to any member of staff. Take the opportunity to meet and to get to know the teachers.

# **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED**

All our Committee/Teachers/Helpers run the club on a day-to-day basis and support the club by fund raising through the **swim shop** etc and organising the social calendar. You do not need to be part of the organising team to help with any of the jobs, if you would like to help then please volunteer.

In order to run inter-club galas the club needs to be able to provide Swim England qualified officials and **parents are actively encouraged to take the Swim England official’s courses and examinations that are held throughout the year.**

For internal galas the requirements are not so strict and we encourage parents to try some of the jobs and learn how it is done before moving on to the inter-club galas. A typical gala needs a Referee, Starter, Chief timekeeper, 12 timekeepers, 6 judges, an announcer, 2 recorders and at least 2 team managers. In addition we need help with drinks, the door (if we charge admission), selling raffle tickets etc. As you can see easily 30, and probably nearer 40 people are required. If you feel you can assist at galas in any way the club would be very grateful. For more information please contact the volunteer co-ordinator.

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**NOTICE TO PARENTS & GUARDIANS**

**Parents / Coaches Responsibilities**

The club or coaches can only be responsible for swimmers during their training sessions and not either before or after this time. The club cannot be responsible for your child away from the poolside. This includes the changing rooms, other areas of

the buildings and outside any swimming pool used by the club.

**The conduct and behaviour of your child remains your responsibility at all times.**

**A reminder – No mobile phones in the changing areas or on poolside– leave them with parents or in a locker**

**Video, zoom or close range photography**

In line with the recommendations in the Swim England Child Protection Policy and the Leisure Centres, **all photography is banned** (excluding by the coaches for training purposes or, with express permission, for exams).

###### **USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

JEAN GRANGER – SECRETARY – 01773 762855 / 07710 171556

[jean.granger20@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jean.granger@o2.co.uk)

ALAN PINK- CHAIRMAN – 07929 575199

**COMMUNICATION**

We keep everyone informed by e-mail, via Facebook and of course the website.

Any problems or queries about club activities can be put to any member of the committee. If necessary the committee member will bring any serious matters for the attention of the full committee for discussion.